

OPTICAL LENS COATING APPARATUS

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method and apparatus are provided for batch, continuous or semi-continuous coating of optical lenses. The method and apparatus use a plurality of carriages which are reciprocally moved in the apparatus to transfer jigs from a jig filled carriage to a lens loading arm and to load the jigs with lenses and then to transfer the jigs now containing uncoated lenses to a leading empty carriage. Using such a reciprocating motion, a leading empty carriage is now filled with jigs containing uncoated lenses and the uncoated lenses in the carriage may then be coated by dipping the carriage in a coating tank. After coating, the coated lenses are removed from the carriage and the coated lenses removed from the system. A similar reciprocating motion is used in the coated lens unloading section to transfer the coated lenses held in the jigs from the carriage to an empty carriage, which empty carriage then becomes a jig filled carriage which can be used in sequence in the system to secure further uncoated lenses and the process continued.